

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## GYPSUM IN APRIL 2005

Producers mined 1.42 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in April 2005 (table 1). Output was 3% less than that of March 2005, and slightly more than that of April 2004. Synthetic gypsum production was 743,000 metric tons (t) in April 2005 (table 1), which was slightly less than that of March 2005 and 3% more than that of April 2004. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the largest domestic consumer of gypsum. During January through March 2005, synthetic gypsum accounted for 2.18 Mt, or about 25%, of the 8.54 Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 501,000 t (table 2), 9% more than that of March 2005 and 8% more than that of April 2004.

Output of calcined gypsum for April (table 1) was 2.10 Mt, 2% more than that of March 2005 and 6% more than that of April 2004. Sales of board products were about 3.0 billion

square feet (277 million square meters), 7% less than that of March 2005 and 3% more than that of April 2004.

U.S. Government import and export data for April 2005 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in March 2005 were 753,000 t (table 3), slightly less than that of February 2005 and 7% less than that of March 2004. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Canada, for March 2005 were 49,000 t, equivalent to 59 million square feet (5.5 million square meters). These imports were 7% more than that of February 2005 and 11% less than that of March 2004. Wallboard exports to 33 countries and territories in March 2005 were 7,600 t, equivalent to 9.1 million square feet (846,000 square meters). These exports were 10% more than those of February 2005 and 38% more than those of March 2004.

All percentages in this report were computed based on unrounded data.

TABLE 1  
GYPSUM SUPPLY<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons)

	2005			2004
	April	March	January-April	January-April
Crude:				
Mined <sup>3</sup>	1,420,000	1,470,000	5,350,000	5,400,000
Imported <sup>4</sup>	NA	964,000	NA	2,880,000
Exported <sup>4</sup>	NA	26,500	NA	47,600
Synthetic gypsum <sup>5</sup>	743,000	753,000	2,920,000	2,670,000
Total supply	NA	3,160,000	NA	10,900,000
Calcined:				
Produced	2,100,000	2,050,000	7,780,000	7,590,000
Imported <sup>6</sup>	NA	216	NA	2,070
Exported <sup>6</sup>	NA	11,500	NA	192,000
Total supply	NA	2,040,000	NA	7,400,000

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

<sup>4</sup>Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

<sup>5</sup>Reported production only.

<sup>6</sup>Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000.

TABLE 2  
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2005			2004
	April	March	January-April	January-April
Uncalcined <sup>3</sup>				
Portland cement	296,000	254,000	1,000,000	1,010,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	205,000	204,000	804,000	522,000
Total	501,000	458,000	1,800,000	1,530,000
Calcined:				
Board products <sup>4</sup>	2,500,000	2,680,000	9,640,000	9,390,000
Plaster	14,100	15,300	54,500	56,000
Total	2,510,000	2,690,000	9,690,000	9,450,000
Board products: (Thousand square feet) <sup>5</sup>				
Regular board	1,830,000	1,990,000	7,140,000	6,910,000
Type X board	894,000	942,000	3,370,000	3,330,000
Other	272,000	286,000	1,050,000	1,020,000
Total supply	2,990,000	3,210,000	11,600,000	11,300,000

<sup>1</sup>Revised.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

<sup>4</sup>Includes weight of paper and other materials.

<sup>5</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3  
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2005			2004
	March	February	January-March	January-March
Bahrain	8	--	8	--
Canada	578,000	540,000	1,650,000	1,430,000
China	16	--	16	--
Costa Rica	--	--	--	15
Dominica	--	2	2	--
Dominican Republic	18,100	18,000	36,100	24,600
Germany	--	--	40	--
Italy	--	--	--	16,400
Jamaica	21,600	--	21,600	--
Mexico	263,000	106,000	563,000	455,000
Peru	--	--	79	--
Spain	83,600	90,700	217,000	197,000
United Kingdom	--	--	--	1
Total	964,000	755,000	2,490,000	2,130,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4  
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption <sup>3</sup>	Production <sup>4</sup>	Imports <sup>5</sup>	Exports <sup>5</sup>
2004:				
April	2,140	1,400	751	9
May	2,230	1,340	905	11
June	2,200	1,280	936	14
July	2,570	1,580	1,010	14
August	2,240	1,520	735	9
September	2,220	1,390	835	12
October	2,400	1,460	954	14
November	2,360	1,460	920	13
December	2,420	1,480	958	14
January-December	26,900	16,900	10,100	149
2005:				
January	2,220	1,460	770	14
February	2,190	1,460	755	17
March	2,400	1,470	964	27
April	NA	1,420	NA	NA

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes synthetic gypsum.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>3</sup>Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting the exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

<sup>4</sup>Production data are from the semiannual gypsum canvasses of the non-wallboard producers, annual canvass of all producers, and from monthly data furnished by the Gypsum Association from the wallboard producers.

<sup>5</sup>Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5  
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGIONS<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand square feet)<sup>3</sup>

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
2005:											
April:											
Veneer base	28,000	2,450	7,360	873	8,660	18	30	504	1,760	17	49,700
Sheathing	1,270	5,060	5,150	5,930	16,300	2,660	12,300	6,180	8,760	979	64,600
Regular gypsum board	44,400	145,000	223,000	115,000	521,000	125,000	224,000	189,000	206,000	34,800	1,830,000
Type X gypsum board	28,300	86,700	128,000	69,600	148,000	30,600	92,000	114,000	189,000	7,330	894,000
Predecorated board	315	623	813	390	1,180	404	857	326	575	35	5,520
5/16 Mobile home board	--	587	3,940	--	9,120	12,200	5,630	161	628	39	32,300
Water/moisture resistant board	5,780	19,900	14,900	6,510	26,700	4,980	11,400	10,100	16,200	3,520	120,000
Total	108,000	260,000	383,000	199,000	731,000	176,000	346,000	321,000	423,000	46,700	2,990,000
January- April:											
Veneer base	100,000	9,930	30,500	3,230	37,500	101	209	1,190	5,730	140	189,000
Sheathing	4,390	15,500	17,000	22,400	59,200	11,000	45,100	22,400	33,400	4,460	235,000
Regular gypsum board	172,000	574,000	863,000	459,000	2,130,000	482,000	834,000	718,000	782,000	131,000	7,140,000
Type X gypsum board	106,000	330,000	471,000	259,000	592,000	123,000	350,000	412,000	699,000	27,800	3,370,000
Predecorated board	1,290	2,380	3,680	1,560	4,820	1,430	3,310	1,210	2,120	195	22,000
5/16 Mobile home board	--	1,920	17,300	--	37,800	50,000	24,500	681	1,840	77	134,000
Water/moisture resistant board	21,300	78,400	60,300	25,900	108,000	18,800	43,100	37,800	61,800	14,600	470,000
Total	406,000	1,010,000	1,460,000	771,000	2,970,000	686,000	1,300,000	1,190,000	1,590,000	178,000	11,600,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Sales region equivalent to U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Division as follows: New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT); Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA); East North Central (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI); West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD); South Atlantic (DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV); East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN); West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX); Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY); Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA).

<sup>3</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

Source: Gypsum Association.